Number of flight trials with Trishul, Prithvi & Nag have been undertaken. Agni, the technology demonstration vehicle also developed under this programme, had been successfully launched on 22 May, 1989. Akash will be flight tested shortly.

(b) Based on overall emerging scenario in the field of guided weapons, certain projections for future developments are being formulated. It will not be in the public interest to disclose these.

Revision of Text Books by NCERT

*115. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact the NCERT is making massive revision of text books, especially those meant for class 10 and 12;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the NCERT have received complaints regarding factual inaccuracies and inadequate explanations in the new text books; and

(c) if so, which subjects have been included in the revised text books and what are the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) to (c) As part of the effort to reorient the content and process of education at the school stage, the National Council of Educational Research and Training, since 1986, has been engaged in curriculum renewal, development of revised syllabi and development of revised textbooks for classes I to XII. The textbooks in Languages, Social Sciences, Science and Mathematis for all stages of school education have been revised by the N.C.E.R.T. Based on the National Curricular framework and the revised syllabi developed by the National Council of Educational Research and Training, most of the States and Union Territories have also initiated measures for development of revised syllabi and textbooks for classes I to XII for introduction into the school system in a phased manner.

According to the information furnished by National Council of Educational Research and Training they have received no such complaints.

Reservation of seats for SC/ST in the Indian Institutes of Technology

*119. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that although 15 per cent seats for Scheduled Caste and 7½ per cent seats for Scheduled Tribe students are reserved for admission to Indian Institutes of Technology per year, yet this quota has never been filled up and there have been huge backlog in this regard;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken to ensure that all the seats reserved for these categories are filled up by students belonging to the same categories;

(c) whether the I.I.T. Council/ Chairman of the Council had set up a group to go into this problem; and

(d) if so, whether the recommendations of this group have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. M. G. K. MENON): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.. To improve the intake of Schdeuled Caste and

Scheduled Tribe students in the under-graduate programmes at the Indian Institutes of Technology, several measures such as lowering the cut-off point in the Joint Entrance Examination and conduct of preparatory courses have been taken by these Institutes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The group has made in all six recommendations. Out of six, three relating directly to the IITs have been implemented. The remaining three involve action at many fronts. Action to implement them is in progress.

Legislation for mandatory insurance scheme for victims of hazardous wastes

*120. SHRI RAOOF VALLULLAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to initiate legislation to introduce mandatory insurance scheme for victims by the companies dealing in hazardous wastes; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to check pollution in view of the recent judgement of the Supreme Court directing five chemical companies near Udaipur to deposit Rs. one lakh each for the removal of sludge from the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir; Government have under consideration a proposal for legislation, making it mandatory for all hazardous chemical industries to take a public liability insurance cover for providing immediate relief to victims on a prescribed scale in case of accidents. The insurance cover is proposed to be on the basis of 'no fault liability'.

(b) The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board has already been directed to render the sludge inactive. The defaulting units M/s Silver Chemicals and M/s Jyoti Chemicals have been closed down and the three other units in the area are being closely monitored to ensure that their emissions and effluents are within the prescribed standards.

Forest Conservation Acts

832. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the flaws in the existing Forest Conservation Acts in force in different states; due to which the conservation of forests is not successful to full extent;

(b) if so, whether any direction has been given by Government to the States to review and amend their Forest Conservation Acts; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Government of India had enacted Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. It is applicable to all States except Jammu and Kashmir. This Act has been amended by the Forest (Conservation) Amendment Act, 1988 and has been brought into force with a view to remove flaws in the earlier legislation and to make the implementation of the Act more efficient and stringent. Guidelines have been issued by the Central Government to the State Governments for the proper implementation of the Act.